

CLAIMS

1. A device comprising, between a differential pair of inputs, consisting of a first input (INN) and a second input (INP), and an output (OUT), a  
5 differential pre-amplifier (HPA1, HPA2), **characterised in that** said device further comprises an offset-reducing block (ORB) cascaded with said differential pre-amplifier (HPA1, HPA2) and arranged for reducing the offset generated by said differential pre-amplifier, and  
10 **in that** said device further comprises a buffering block (BB) in series with said offset-reducing block (ORB) and arranged for amplifying and buffering the output voltage of said offset-reducing block.

2. The device as in claim 1, **characterised in that** said differential pre-amplifier comprises a first (HPA1) and a second (HPA2) half pre-amplifier, each of said half pre-amplifiers having a first (+) and a second (-) input and an output, the outputs of said half pre-amplifiers being coupled together to form an input to said  
20 offset-reducing block (ORB).

3. The device as in claim 1 or 2, **characterised in that** the first input (+) of said first half pre-amplifier (HPA1) is coupled to a first input (INP) of said device, whilst the second input (-) of said  
25 first half pre-amplifier (HPA1) is coupled to the second input (INN) of said device, and  
**in that** the first input (+) of said second half pre-amplifier (HPA2) is coupled to the first input (INP) of said device, whilst the second input (-) of said second  
30 half pre-amplifier (HPA2) is coupled to the second input (INN) of said device.

4. The device as in any of the previous claims, **characterised in that** said offset-reducing block (ORB) comprises a transimpedance circuit.

5 5. The device as in claim 4, **characterised in that** said transimpedance circuit comprises a resistor (RP1) and an inverter stage (MP5-MN5).

6. The device as in any of the previous claims, **characterised in that** said offset-reducing block (ORB) additionally comprises means for equalisation.

10 7. The device as in claim 6, **characterised in that** said means for equalisation comprises a RC network.

8. The device as in any of the previous claims, **characterised in that** said buffering block (BB) 15 comprises means for amplification and pulse shaping.

9. The device as in claim 8, **characterised in that** said means for amplification and pulse shaping comprises an inverter circuit (MN6-MP6).

10. A receiver structure comprising a device 20 as in any of the previous claims.